Fertilisers Stocks

412. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Miniser of AGRICULTURE be pleased to sate:

(a) whether it is a fact that the stock of fertilisers is mounting;

(b) if so, the quantum of fertilisers stock in the country by the end of March, 1988;

(c) the quantum of fertilisers consumption in the country during 1987-88 financial year; and

(d) what was the indigenous production of fertilisers by that time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILISERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As on 31-3-1988, about 36.8 lakh tonnes of fertilisers nutrients were in stock;

(c) The consumption of fertilisers during 1987-88 financial year is estimated at about 90 lakh tonnes of fertiliser nutrients;

(d) The production of fertilisers during 1987-88 financial year was 71.31 lakh tonnes of fertiliser, nutrients.

Modernisation of Steel Plant

413. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level official delegation of Steel Ministry recently visited Bonn (West Germany) and Tokyo (Japan) to negotiate for the upgradation and modernisation of some steel Plants in the country;

(b) if so, what is the outcome thereof; and

(c) the programmes of modernisation emerged as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A credit of DM 660 million for the modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant having been announced by the Federal Republic of Germany, discussions have been held with the authorities of that country on the scope and methodology for the utilisation of the credit offered. A Detailed Project Report is under finalisation and further discussions will be held with West German authorities and industry.

In Japan, the Indian delegation had detailed discussions with the Japanese Government, financial institutions and Japanese industry in connection with the modernisation of IISCO. As a result of these discussions, the Japanese EXIM Bank has agreed to give an export credit of approximately Rs. 900 crores to cover the cost of equipment and services from Japan. A team of Japanese experts is scheduled to visit Burnpur in the first week of August to carry out a detailed technical study of the Plant. An Appraisal Mission from the Japanese Government is also expected to visit Burnpur in the second half of August.

Television transmitters in Andhra Pradesh

414. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 87 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 1988 and state the percentage of rural areas of Andhra Pradesh likely to be covered by television transmission by the end of the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): About 50.7 per cent of the total area of Andhra Pradesh, covering approximately 66.8 per cent

of the total population of the State, is expected to be brought under TV coverage by the end of the current financial year (1988-89). Out of the rural population of the State, about 58.2 per cent will be covered.

Production of Oilseeds

415 PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the production of oilseeds during 1987-88;

(b) what percentage of the consumption needs of edible oils was met by this production;

(c) what was the shortfall in meeting the consumption needs of edible-oils; and

(d) the impact of Technology Mission on production of oil-seeds in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The production of total nine oilseeds, during the year 1987-88 is tentatively estimated at 118 lakh tonnes.

(b) and (c) During the current oil year 1987-88 (November, 87- October, 88) the production was to meet about 30 per cent of the total consumption of edible oil in the country. The shortfall of 21 lakh metric tonnes of edible oil, as estimated earlier, is expected to decline by 2 to 3 lakh tonnes due to higher production in rabi season.

(d) Despite one of the worst droughts faced by the country, the oilseeds production during 1987-88 showed an increase over the earlier two years, i.e. an increase of 3.06 per cent over 1986-87 and of 8.96 per cent over 1985-86. This could largely be attributed to the promotional work undertaken by the partner agencies in the Technology Mission on Oilseeds.

Buffer stocks of rice and wheat

416. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the position of buffer stocks of rice and wheat at the end of the year 1987-88 (as on 1st April, 1988);

(b) whether there has been any shortfall in the procurement of rice and wheat during the first six months of 1988; and

(c) whether Government propose to import rice and wheat to meet to the domestic situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) As on 1st April, 1988, total stock of rice and wheat with public agencies was estimated at 5.9 million tonnes and 3.3 million tonnes respectivey.

(b) Yes, Sir. Procurement during January to June, 1988, was about 29.94 lakh tonnes of rice and 65.37 lakh tonnes of wheat as compared to 38.72 lakh tonnes of rice and 78.11 lakh tonnes of wheat procured during the corresponding period of 1987.

(c) The Government has recently contracted for import of 10 lakh tonnes of wheat and 7 lakh tonnes of rice.

NCDC bonds

417. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 25th series of NCDC Bonds which opened for subscription in June, 1988 was over subscribed the same day;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of schemes for which the subscribed amount is likely to be utilised?